DRAKE UNIVERSITY
DES MOINES, IOWA 50311

Department of History

February 18, 1978

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 12
Old Receiver Rd.
Frederick, Md. 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I've followed the continuing controversy over the assassination of President John F. Kennedy for over ten years. What began as a hobbyhas become a serious academic interest and now I'm teaching a popular course on the assassination here at Drake. And of course I've become a collector of the assassination literature. Your books arn't readily available here in Des Moines, so I'm sending a check for fifty dollars to secure the following: Photographic Whitewash: Suppressed Kennedy Assassination Pictures; Oswald in New Orleans: Case for Conspiracy With the CIA; Post Mortem: JFK Assassination Cover-Up Smashed and Whitewash IV: JFK Assassination Transcript. I have your first two Whitewash books. If you have any other published articles or recent work that is available I would surely like to obtain copies. If the fifty dollar check does not cover the expenses, I will of course send the balance.

You are a busy man and I hesitate to intrude on your work, but if you have a moment sometime could you please provide your answers to the following questions? They baffle me and perhaps many others.

(1) Do you agree with Grodon that JFK received the first hit at Z 189? Does his blow-up of Z 413 really show the back of the head of an assassin behind the stone wall? Is this man also seen on the Moorman Polaroid picture?

(2) Is Epstein right when he suggests that the autopsy report sent to the authorities by Dr. Humes was not the original? Were, in fact, O'Neill and Sibert correct in the FBI report when they stated that the back(neck) shot penetrated only a couple of inches and later fell out of JFK*s back?

(3) While I'm on the subject of Epstein, what is this business about an upcoming book from Readers Digest? Is Epstein really going to argue that the CIA trained Oswald in Russian, sent him to Russia as a double-agent and later the KGB and Cuban intelligence joined forces to kill JFK? And then the CIA and KGB collaborated to have Oswald removed, and Ruby took the assignment on being promised that his cancer death would be faked? And that Ruby is still alive? I read this teaser in a recent issue of New Times.

(4) Do you still think that Willis took his fifth picture at the time of the first shot and that this took place several frames before Oswald could have had a clear shot over the oak tree?

(5) Has anybody in this investigation ever discovered who was the "umbrella man"? My students find this a very mysterious aspect of the problem.

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(6) Has anyone ever checked with Detroit about an early report that someone (probably a factory spokesman) found a hole in the floor board of the President*s limousine?

(7) What happened to the bullet found by Richard Lester in the turf some 61 feet southwest of the TSBD? Did the FBI get the bullets from the National Archives and compare the Lester bullet with them by spectrographic or neutron activiation tests? And just how many of the so-called bullet marks in Dealey Plaza do you feel are real?

(8) What do you think in the case of Roger Craig*s death? Did he really see the "hulls" in a different arrangement on the day of the assassination? Do you feel he saw Oswald or a double leave the site in a station wagon?

(9) Is it possible that the Connally wrist wound was caused by a fragment from the JFK head shot? Is Grodon right when he says Connally's wrist is uninjured as late as Z 274?

(10) Who is the nurse who testified before the House committee about the five or six fragments taken from Connally's wrist? Is it Rutherford, Shrader (sp.?) or Bell or someone else? Do you have firm evidence as to the weight of the fragments removed(or left in) from Connally?

(11) Is Thompson right when he says one of the "hulls" (because of the dent) could not have been fired from C 2766? Do you agree with him and others that the death of the President was caused by two simultaneous shots to the head, one fired from behind and one from the right front?

(12) You sought, through the Freedom-of-Information suits, evidence on the spectrographic-neutron activation results. Are you convineed that the Connally fragments were identical with the metal in CE 399?

(13) Was Oswald really in Mexico City? Why did the CIA ask the FBI to check the voice on the tapes made there to determine if that voice was really Oswald? Is Philips right when he testified that the conversation by Oswald with the Soviet embassy included the offer to provide information in return for a free trip to Russia?

(14) Do you think Oswald was a CIA agent? Was he trying to "penetrate" anti-Castro Cuban exile groups? Or is Frank Sturgis right when he says Oswald was really acting for Castro himself?

(15) You must be tired by now. Just one more! Are there many in our government who are covering up for the sake of "national interest?" Will the House committee ever get to the bottom of this sordid affair?

Sincerely,

Charles A. Nelson

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